

## **Appleby Archaeology**

Notes of the Committee Meeting of the Appleby Archaeology Group held on Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup> 2014 at The White House, Brampton.

### **Present**

Phyl Rouston	Chairman
Heather Edwards	
Martin Railton	Research
Mike Godfrey	Treasurer
Richard Stevens	Secretary

### **Apologies**

Carol Dougherty	Membership
Martin Joyce	Newsletter

### **Notes of the last meeting**

The notes were agreed to be a correct record.

### **1/8/2014 Matters arising**

1. 1/3/13 Talks to schools is now an agenda item (2/8/2014)
2. Martin J had suggested that the familiarisation visit to Centre 67 should take place in the week commencing 6 October and since we would be using the room on Tuesdays, it was agreed that the actual date should be Tuesday 7th October. Phyl would arrange and she & Martin J would attend, although it might be helpful if any other committee members who were available could come along. Phyl will confirm the visit in the week commencing 22 September. **(Phyl)**

### **2/8/14 Talks to Schools.**

This matter had recently been complicated by an email message from Stephen Walker who had become involved through an unconnected matter at KS Grammar School. The outcome is that despite the content of that message, Trish has been in contact with the school and has agreed to give her talk in the new school year. A pupil at the school had contacted the group in early summer asking about visiting an excavation but because Brackenber had been cancelled, the best that Trish could offer was Abbeytown and this was much too far away.

It was assumed that Trish now had the matter under control & once her professional engagements for the year were completed she could follow up with both schools.

### **3/8/14 Membership**

Carol had sent her apologies at the last minute and there was therefore no update on membership.

**(Post meeting note: there is no change to the previous count - 41 single and 32 joint members.**

### **4/8/14 Treasurer's Report**

Mike reported that for the period 22 May – 28 August, receipts were £466.80, payments were £503.62 and the balance at the bank was £834.98. It was decided that no increase in subscriptions was necessary for 2015.

### **5/8/14 Research**

1. Martin R reported that he had received no further response from Paul Frodsham at the AONB regarding conservation of finds from Brackenber despite a number of attempts to

contact him. Martin said that he would send a final message to the effect that if we hear nothing further, the group will be forced to look elsewhere for funding to complete the project. **(Martin R)**

Fieldwalking on Brackenber could be ongoing depending upon availability of suitable fields and any results could be incorporated in any final report produced.

2. Richard said that he had received only three suggestions for research ideas from the members, two of which were concerned with LIDAR analysis. It was thought that this might make a possible sub group within Appleby Archaeology if a few more members were interested & Richard agreed to give it some thought before replying to the suggestions. **(Richard)**
3. The group enjoyed an excellent tour of Appleby Castle and as Peter Bass took us around he pointed out a number of sites within the grounds where it would be interesting to have an archaeological assessment done. This was briefly discussed with Peter at the end of the tour when we were advised to contact Mrs Nightingale.

Martin R suggested that the group could take a look at the origins of the town with the intention of bringing the newly accessible castle into the investigation. He suggested some mini projects as a start, eg. Big Dig style test pits etc. which, if well publicised and introduced into Trish's talks to the school, could interest students & local people.

Initially the group would approach Mrs Nightingale with the idea, suggesting that the group might later look for the rumoured burgrave plots within the castle walls as part of the project. Phyl agreed to draft a letter for discussion. **(Phyl/Martin/Richard)**

#### **6/8/14 Correspondence**

1. Richard had received an email message from Anthony Dickson of Oxford Archaeology, who was compiling a lithics scatter survey for Cumbria. The request was passed to Martin R who has responded.
2. CBA North had sent a flyer for a Maritime Archaeology Conference being held in Newcastle in October. Richard will send to Martin R who will place it on the Facebook page.
3. The CBA Community Forum had sent a message referencing free article downloads from Post Medieval Archaeology online for the month of September.
4. Richard had received a book catalogue from Oblong Publishing, whose main business was printing journals.

#### **7/8/14 Programme**

1. As stated above, the castle visit was very well received despite the lack of coffee & cake!
2. The trip to Hartlepool will take place as scheduled, there are 14 members travelling, with all cheques received. Robinsons have been paid & informed that the pickup will be at the swimming pool car park at 8.30am. Richard will inform those travelling of the arrangements. **(Richard) (Post meeting note, Heather will bring a friend who will pay Mike on the day.)**
3. After a short discussion, it was agreed that in future, whichever member of the committee engaged a speaker for one of the winter slots would also be responsible for sending out the formal reminder letter one month prior to the date of their talk. Richard

said he would send round the current version of the letter, which included Martin J's contact details for AV purposes. Phyl would continue to send out the post talk thank you letter. **(All)**

4. Speakers for the AGM & members evening were yet to be organised, Phyl said that she would mention this at the October talk & see if she could tempt Steve & Maggie Thompson to have a go. Also, Heather! **(Phyl)**
5. Richard had not yet sent out the programme to third parties but would do so within the next few days. **(Post meeting note: Done, twice!)**
6. Richard said he would prepare the poster for the October talk and circulate as before. **(Richard)**

#### **8/8/14 AOB**

Further to the discussion about additional committee members at the previous meeting, it was now concluded that, as we had all positions filled, plus the valuable assistance of Heather as a member without portfolio, the group did not need any more members on the committee.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

**Date and time of next meeting Thursday November 20<sup>th</sup> at No. 5, the White House, Appleby. This can be found through the courtyard next to Stevensons greengrocers in Boroughgate.**